

1. A water conditioner for eliminating scale formation, comprising a housing having an inlet, an outlet, and a chamber, having a wall, providing fluid communication between the inlet and outlet; and

*A1* a core having a surface, the core being received within the chamber, the chamber wall and core surface providing a flow path between the inlet and outlet, the core surface consisting essentially of 40-60% copper, 2-30% zinc, 10-25% nickel, 1-5% tin, 0-1.5% iron and 0-1% lead, all percentages by weight,

*B* the core surface having the property of increasing the *voltage* ~~electrical potential~~ of water flowing over the surface.

*My BI 1*

*G2* 7. The water conditioner of claim 1 wherein the electrical potential is increased to values in the range of 150-300 millivolts.

Remarks

The Official Office Action of December 8, 2000 and the references therein made of record have been carefully considered. Applicant has amended claim 1 and attached is a marked up copy.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-6 as unpatentable over Walker in view of Cassidy based on the following rationale:

Walker discloses (see col. 1 lines 5-38 and col. 7 lines 9-29) the structure of the water conditioner substantial-